

# THE

*January-February, 1959*

# SCOPE

Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2011 with funding from  
Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners and the Institute of Museum and Library Services



<http://www.archive.org/details/scope1959mass>  
PUBLISHED BY THE STUDENTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

# WIN ONE OF FOUR 1959 THUNDERBIRDS!

## EDGEWORTH'S "PIPE SMOKING TIME" CONTEST



### OVER \$33,000 IN PRIZES!

Just 25 words will win America's most wanted car . . . or one of 1,032 other exciting prizes!

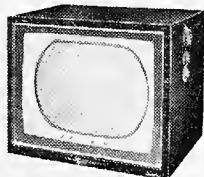
#### 4 1959 FORD THUNDERBIRDS

1st to 4th prizes

Four-passenger hardtops. America's most individual car.

#### 8 RCA COLOR TV SETS

5th to 12th prizes



Your passport to the wonder world of Living Color! Installed free.

#### 8 MEN'S WARDROBES TAILORED

BY **Calvert**  
CLOTHES



13th to 20th prizes

Complete outfit - suit, sport coat, two pairs of slacks . . . superbly styled from fine materials, with the hand-tailored touches that count.

#### 16 HAMILTON ELECTRIC WRIST WATCHES

21st to 36th prizes

The watch the world is talking about. Powered by a tiny battery that lasts for months.



#### 1,000 FAMOUS FALCON PIPES

37th to 1036th prizes

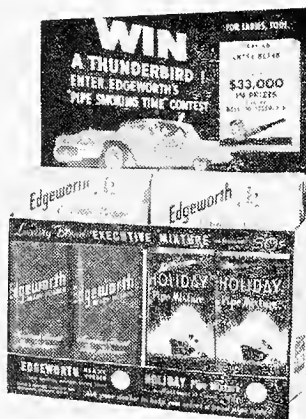


Featherweight, 1 ounce. Patented moisture trap—smokes bone dry. Finest imported Briar.

#### \$2,000 FOR RETAILERS

Ask your jobber about these awards. And get the display racks to boost your sales of House of Edgeworth contest brands.

EDGEWORTH READY-RUBBED in the famous pouch of blue. Cool, slow burning white burleys! HOLIDAY PIPE MIXTURE—A blend of 5 great tobaccos with a flavor men relish and an aroma that women welcome, too. EDGEWORTH EXECUTIVE MIXTURE—Most luxurious tobacco you can smoke! No added aromatics. Also EDGEWORTH JR. . . . HI PLANE . . . EDGEWORTH SLICED



### LADIES INVITED!



Yes, ladies, this is a contest for you, too. You'll have many reasons why men like pipe smoking more than ever. Win yourself a Thunderbird or one of the many wonderful prizes.

### CONTEST RULES

1. Simply complete this statement in 25 words or less: "It's pipe smoking time all over America because . . ." Write your entry on an official entry blank or one side only of any sheet of plain paper. Be sure to print your name and address plainly on your entry. You may enter as many times as you wish, but each entry must be accompanied by either an empty pocket size pouch, or the printed insert from medium or large size tin of any one of these six pipe tobaccos: EDGEWORTH READY-RUBBED, EXECUTIVE MIXTURE, EDGEWORTH SLICED, HOLIDAY PIPE MIXTURE, EDGEWORTH JR., OR HI PLANE.

2. Mail your entry to:  
Edgeworth Contest  
P. O. Box 82-C  
Mount Vernon 10, New York

Entries must be postmarked not later than midnight, March 31, 1959. Be sure to use sufficient postage.

3. Anyone living in the continental United States, its territories and

possessions may enter except employees of Larus & Brother Company, Inc., and its advertising agencies and the families of such employees. Each entry must be the original work of the contestant submitting it and be submitted in the contestant's own name.

4. Prizes, as listed in the contest announcement, will be awarded to the best entries judged by The Reuben H. Donnelley Corporation on the basis of originality, sincerity and appropriateness. Duplicate prizes in the event of ties. Decision of the judges is final. Only one prize will be awarded in any one family.

5. All entries become the property of Larus & Brother Company, Inc., to use as it sees fit and none will be acknowledged or returned. Winners will be notified by mail. Full list of winners will be sent approximately six weeks after close of contest to anyone enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope with entry. Contest subject to all federal, state and local regulations.

### OFFICIAL ENTRY BLANK

(Use plain paper if desired)

MAIL TO: Edgeworth Contest  
P. O. Box 82-C

Mount Vernon 10, New York

Send with each entry an empty pocket size pouch, or the printed insert from inside a medium or large size tin of any of these 6 fine pipe tobaccos: EDGEWORTH READY-RUBBED, EDGEWORTH EXECUTIVE MIXTURE, EDGEWORTH SLICED, HOLIDAY PIPE MIXTURE, EDGEWORTH JR., OR HI PLANE.

Entries must be postmarked not later than midnight March 31, 1959.

Print Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

ENTER AS MANY TIMES AS YOU LIKE! GET MORE ENTRY BLANKS AT YOUR DEALER'S.

Complete this sentence in 25 words or less

"It's pipe smoking time all over America

because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## ***Tuition Goes Up Next Year***

For the second year in succession, tuition has been raised \$25.00 per semester. This will bring the total tuition fee to \$700. This raise was made necessary so that the College could meet its expenses in these days of soaring prices. It was quietly mentioned that the school still maintains the lowest tuition rate in optometry today of all the colleges in the country.

## ***Student Activity Fee Increased***

The Student Council recently voted unanimously to increase the student activity fee. This was necessary to allow the council to function at peak efficiency and give the students a worthwhile and well financed program of activities and sports, such as the Scope, Yearbook, the Basketball Team, and other activities sponsored or partially helped by the Council.

The old fee had become antiquated in that it had been formulated in a previous era many years ago and today's responsibilities and prices did not permit the same flexibility as was envisioned in those by-gone days.

## ***Junior Class Plans Yearbook***

The Junior Class is organizing early for next year's yearbook which should prove easily to be far and away the best ever seen on this campus. The Business, Graphic and Editorial sections have been organized

and are humming with activity as of early February. Gil Sellars is charged with coordinating the three afore-mentioned sections which are headed respectively by Victor Pelletier and Carroll Martus, Dan Murray and Tom Baker. The class expects most of the year book to be finished this year, leaving next year for polishing and giving it the final touches.

## ***• • WRITER'S CORNER • •***

This issue is marked by a buoyancy of spirit as evidenced by most of the writing, much of it in the lighter vein.

Tom Baker gives us a resume of the Eyeball with some of the sidelights thrown in for good measure. As is usual George Dyer plies his facile pen under the masthead of P.O.S. and comes forth a gem of name dropping, you probably have not been spared if you are in this fraternity.

Even our Research Editor, Bob McNulty, has a go at it as he succeeds in good humoredly knocking the wind out of the sails of the ridiculous but sacrosanct, "Bates System". We find Gil Sellars on our pages for the first time as he takes over the Junior class reporting chores, a quick eye and uncensored pen are much in evidence.

We find Sam Kornblatt writing an anthology of curious and interesting situations with some of the more staid white collar workers of this institution giving him the info, we'd be curious to know to whom a certain one of these things happened to! Bringing up the flank we find Sheldon Strauss, O.E.Phi's best friend, letting us know what is happening with this frat, from what we can gather he's looking forward with relish for that basketball game to occur.

On the more serious side we find an interview with Doctor Hochstatt who lets us know the why and wherefore of the financial status of the college. We also managed to throw in another Sketch, this time dealing with an overzealous artist and a non-appreciative critic by name of Sam.

D. M.

PAGE ONE

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

EYEBALL	page 2
SKETCH	page 2
EDITORIAL PAGE	page 3
PI OMICRON SIGMA	page 4
SOPHOMORE REVIEW	page 6
COLLEGE FINANCES	page 7
EXERCISE IN NONSENSE	page 8
JUNIOR NOTES	page 9
LIGHTER SIDE	page 10
OMEGA EPSILON PHI	page 12
COLOR, PSYCHOLOGY	page 12

## **M.C.O. Presents Its Annual "Eyeball"**

**by TOM BAKER**

The Massachusetts College of Optometry's Annual Student Council—Pan Hellenic sponsored dance, "The Eyeball", was held Saturday evening, February 7th in the Venetian Room of the Sheraton Plaza Hotel.

The eagerly awaited affair was deemed a success by those present.

For the statistically minded reader, we have some of the facts and figures of the dance. There were fifty-four couples in attendance. Ten bottles of champagne were won in five spot dances with Dr. Mitch Kuhn being the moveable spot in one of the dances. (The winning couple, of course, in a spot dance is that couple which is closest to the spot when the music stops.) The music was provided by Jack Panjian's five piece band. The door prize, a half gallon bottle of whiskey, was won by a surprised Forrest Seavey, who being the master of ceremonies, called his own number. There were favors for all—a mirrored case and comb for the women and a miniature frame and key chain for the men. Doctor Hochstadt would have been very happy to see that all the students wore ties and jackets. The minimum at the bar was easily made.

What follows are some of the memorable scenes and happenings at the dance: the upperclassmen giving sage and sodden advice to the freshmen at the bar . . . the newly married students used the dance as an excuse to show off their new wives . . . Louis Bardfield brought his bird calls . . . There was the usual snafu concerning flowers—some had them, most did not . . . Ted Thamel was interrupted long enough from his check signing duties to announce the birth of his son, Foster . . . Gil Sellars told anyone willing to listen just how this dance would have been managed at Hopkins . . . Dr. Kozol's finding that Soy Sauce does not mix well with bourbon . . . the fine looking group of dates and wives.

This affair is an asset to the College in that it gives both the students and teachers a chance to meet one another socially, out of the environs of the classrooms and the daily routine. However, the women will attest to the fact that all shop talk is never fully quieted. Optometry is ever present.

## **SKETCH No. 3**

*Suicide: A last effort in red and light tan...*

*by dan murray*

The night was breezy, the windows were going swiftly by and with a twist of my head could easily see the quickly diminishing ledge from which I had just stepped from. "The street below isn't too crowded, thank God! Those people look like flies walking across a broad gray canvas, I hate flies when they scrawl all over when I paint!

Cones, cubes, straights and curves, I've tried them all, but this is the best method of all, this is putting your everything into it, *this* is painting! Looking back, it had to come to this. I've searched and searched for a long time, but this I know is it. A painting should be made quickly, with as few strokes as possible, not meticulously but thoroughly nevertheless. This one will be made in one stroke in red and light tan... with subtle shadings and in a gouache never before tried.

The pavement is coming up rapidly, I hope it will be beautiful!"

\* \* \*

"Say, Sam!"

"Yeah?", a paunchy city laborer answered.

"Whadda ya think of this queer, jumping off like that?", asked the white trousered laborer.

"Don't know what to think, them guys get good money painting, and the cops said this guy wasn't exactly broke!", the paunchy one said while making a short sweep with the gushing hose.

"Say, Sam!"

"Yeah?", the paunchy one answered while adjusting the hose to get a stronger spray.

"It sure is a mess isn't it?", stated the other.

"Yeah, it's not a pretty picture alright!", he said.

"Say, Sam!"

"Yeah?"

"Let's get this blood off the sidewalk and get the hell back to the park!", said the other impatiently as he watched the young office girls walking to work by way of the park across the street.

# THE SCOPE

Official Undergraduate Publication of the  
MASS. COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

Editor-in-Chief ..... DAN MURRAY  
Associate Editor ..... SHELDON STRAUSS  
Feature Editor ..... SAM KORNBLATT  
Research Editor ..... BOB McNULTY  
Editorial Consultant ..... TOM BAKER  
Business Manager ..... VICTOR PELLETIER  
Circulation Staff ..... DICK GLENN, Mgr.  
..... GEORGE MAGURES  
..... BRUCE BRODSKY  
Cartoonist ..... SAM KORNBLATT

## Staff Writers

DON SAFERSTEIN ..... GIL SELLARS  
BOB NOCHIMSON ..... DR. MITCH KUHN  
..... GEORGE WILLIAM DYER

## Faculty Advisor

DEAN RALPH H. GREEN

## AN APPRAISAL

Being a part of the Student Council, the Scope would nevertheless like to try and take as much a non-partisan view of this group as possible and offer the reader a chance to appraise for himself.

The Council is essentially the student government on this campus, what it does definitely affects the student himself, it may also be said that what it doesn't do is also of interest. The council has to date

done the following things, this is not all inclusive but rather deals with the important aspects.

It has eliminated the system of buying notes from the preceeding class, this affects your pocketbook to some degree.

A multifax machine has been bought and put to th use of the students, this is an immeasurable help in the Senior year.

It has sponsored a successful dance, the Eyeball..

It has contributed in some measure to the upkeep of the various fraternity rooms.

The Basketball team has been financed this year.

The Scope is supported by the Student Council in part.

It has paid off a slight deficit in the Yearbook of last year.

Two new members were added to the Council, representing the Scope and the basketball team.

This may appear somewhat laudable and it is, but there are some points where the reader may find cause for concern. The Council is working without a constitution of any kind, and without parliamentary procedure, this tends to lead to a certain amount of confusion at times. This we hope will be remedied shortly.

On the whole the Council is healthy, though slow in action, it still manages to get things done. — **D.M.**



"What about his phoria tests?"

## Middlesex Optometrists Make Contribution to Building Fund

On Monday, February 16, the members of the Middlesex District of the Massachusetts Society of Optometrists presented Dean Ralph H. Green with a check for \$100 to be added to the College Building Fund.

Dean Green was introduced by Dr. Walter Tarranto, chairman of the District, to the members present who met to listen to and observe a demonstration of the Roberts Multiple Target Screener.

Dr. Donald Horley was called upon by Dr. Tarranto to present the check to Dean Green who received it and expressed the thanks of the College for their generosity.



# PI OMICRON SIGMA

by GEORGE WILLIAM DYER

The big word around the Frat Room recently was "exams," therefore not many activities were held during the last month. P.O.S. held its initiation night December 23 at which time 19 pledges were initiated into the Fraternity as brothers. After the initiation, light (light lager) refreshments were served.

At the recent football game between O.E. PHI., both teams put on a tremendous showing. The final score ended in a tie 2 to 2. The following is a picture of the P.O.S. line-up.

## *Left End—Gil Sellars*

Lured to M.C.O. with the promise of suede shoes and an authentic Elvis Presley gang button—invented a bean-blower for watermelons and came North from Baltimore because P.O.S. Captain Sandy Miller had the only mouth big enough to use it—his hobby is polishing his Air Force R.O.-T.C. wings as well as his own.

## *Left Tackle—Sam Kornblatt*

Landed at M.C.O. quite by accident—it seems he was headed for Siberia all the time and the resemblance between the M. C.O. campus and the salt mines was enough to cause him to land in the wrong spot. Was Parchesi champ at Columbia until he was dethroned by an insignificant freshman (most of the P.O.S. freshmen are you know)—too bad because he was one of the few Parchesi majors left in the school.

## *Left Guard—Marv Finkelstein*

Has been Santa Claus for the last twelve years at Jordan Marsh during the off-season—he was quite large for a child (as a matter of fact he is still quite large for a child). Mid-night commander of Mid-Night Auto Supply Inc.—stole more hub-caps than any other brother but flunked his major "orthoptics" when he mistakenly taught a patient the "rope trick." This wasn't half as bad as referring to the instrument in the corner as the deluxe rectoscope.

## *Center—Sanford Miller*

Noon-time commander of the same organization. A debutante last year—he finally

came out of the P.O.S. dressing room after the score was P.O.S. 24, Vassar 6. (This was due to the fact that the Vassar center hadn't come out yet and "Petite" didn't want to associate with anybody who wasn't in his social class.) After the Vassar center was thrown out of the game for roughing up Lucky Lips Leavitt he returned and although he was able to finish the game two of his fingernails were broken and he suffered a severe run in his left stocking.

## *Right Guard—Ernest Rascati*

During the summer months he started with an Ipana testing job but was fired for obvious reasons—also walks floors in the local phone booth to keep in shape. He was trapped on the M.C.O. campus after escaping from the Pittsburgh Zoo—Beat out Myrtle Purple of Pittsburgh Classical for the center berth in Regis' All American stag line—sixth year on the team and still hasn't graduated—he still can't seem to get accustomed to the environment (people wearing shoes and all)—has already gotten a job with the Army testing wind-tunnels (he is supplying the wind).

## *Right Tackle—Herb Boskin*

Great Tarzan fan—still lists his home as the Belgian Congo—had a job in Brooklyn before being fired because they found out his name had been shortened from Boskin-oskolinkovavitch and they couldn't get his name on a time clock—last year made the Quantico Marines all-opponent team along with Khrushchev and Mikoyan — related to Jack Boskin who terrorized the P.O.S. frat room years ago with his chlorine gas experiments.

## *Right End—Macy Sezzin*

Came to M.C.O. to avoid the draft and wound up as a P. L. C. (that stands for pretty lovely cutie). Asked for duty in Egypt guarding embassies so he could be near his pet camel "Howie"—expelled from M.C.O. three times for trying to burn down the Orthoptic Clinic—most popular man on the squad with the name of Sezzin—a great

advocate of two-platoon systems—thinks it insures safer landings.

*Quarterback—Al Bluhm*

One of the original “Green Mountain Boys”—best yodeller in New England — calls signals on offense (this is necessary because he is the only starter who can talk coherently) — used to model “living lipstick” but he was censured by NCAA for professionalism. Awarded the Mamie Reilly Annual Trophy for having the cleanest uniform in P.O.S. history—member of National Society for Advancement of Vicunas.

*Right Half Back—Harvey Leavitt*

Transferred from Simmons to major in Home Economics. He also is the author of “Ninety-Nine Ways to Prepare Applesauce.” His initial attempt to direct a P. O. S. Dramatic Society production failed when the horse on which Lady Godiva was riding broke through the stage door and proceeded to spread the word throughout Newbury St. that Playtex living girdles really contained no vital principle thus forcing the societies’ sponsor to drop their investment in his production.

*Full Back ———?*

No one has been found yet who wishes to play this position. Tryouts are still being held.

Also for those who like to see their names in print, here is a list of the brothers who are on the Ad Book Staff for 1959.

Asst. Editor—Armand “Bad Breath” Drucker

Art Editor—Howie “O Howie Draws” Klapper

Staff Photographer—Bob “Phil T. Picture” Weber

Copy Editor—Ronny “I Kant Read” Clapp

Business Manager—Ted “Lucky Luciano” Thamel

Sports Editor—Forrest “Jack Strop” Seavey

Social Editor—Irwin “Magnolia Muggernut”  
Suchoff

Full Ass’t Editor in charge of Half Ass’t Editors

—Roland “Jackle a Jockle” Gaudette

Next time it might be you.

### ***SCOPE Drops Last Issue***

At a recent Editorial meeting, Dan Murray, announced his intention of cancelling the publication of the May-June issue and leaving open the possibility of a large -March-April-May issue. This was discussed by the Editorial and Business Staff and all agreed unanimously since time and the financial status did not deem it otherwise.

## ***TEAM IS GOOD!***

The M.C.O. basketball team, showing an increasing amount of improvement as the season grows older, defeated Emerson College on Monday, February 9. This game was very decisive in favor of M.C.O., the score being 69-48, with Mike Gorman, a stellar Freshman guard, scoring 34 points in the process.

On Wednesday, Feb. 11, M.C.O. came within a hairbreadth of a victory when it played the New England College of Pharmacy, this latter college edged the squad 64-59. The game was marked by a spectacular comeback by M.C.O. in this Boston Garden game, where they played as a preliminary to the Celtics. The game was marked by fast action by all the participating players on the squad with Mike Gorman again garnering a good share of the points. In spite of a tight zone defense, Mike with his jump shots succeeded in swishing through 37 points. Doctor Kuhn, the coach, was exceptionally pleased at the squad’s good showing and looked forward to the few remaining games with the expectancy of victories.

## ***MCO Establishes Scholarship***

The Executive Board of the Alumni Association of the Massachusetts College of Optometry has announced the offering of a tuition scholarship of \$150. to be given annually to a worthy and needy student in the fourth year class. The recipient of the scholarship will be selected from eligible candidates by the faculty Committee on Scholarships and Awards.

This scholarship was made possible by contributions to the Scholarship Fund by graduates of the College. Since contributions are still being received, the Association looks forward to either increasing the value of the scholarship or establishing a second tuition scholarship at a later date.

All who wish to contribute to the Scholarship Fund are asked to make their checks payable to the Alumni Association, Massachusetts College of Optometry Scholarship Fund, 178 Newbury Street, Boston, Mass.

## Here are the Letters Write the Words

You make the thorough examination. You make the professional decision. You write the accurate prescription. Turn to these words . . . American Optical . . . for the best in R Laboratory attention. Precise service for over 100 years. Prompt service from 256 laboratories serving the country.



American  Optical  
COMPANY

## SOPHOMORE REVIEW

by **BOB NOCHIMSON** and **DON SAFERSTEIN**

Here we are again your two harrassed writers, Nochimson and Saferstein. After our last article we bet you thought we wouldn't have enough guts to write another one. But even though we've been beaten, ripped apart, and pretty well shook up, the article must be written, (We're gluttons for punishment).

Now that exams are over and we're all back to the whist and ping-pong games a quiet serenity prevails at M.C.O. Comments are heard, such as "This semester I'm really going to take notes", and "This semester I'm really going to buy my own Lab. sheets". This of course is status quo for our school, for although nothing ever happens, we all have good intentions.

In surveying our class, we feel that many of the boys have missed their true vocations in life:

Don't you think:

Bob Agronov could play Yul Brenner's stand in.  
Bruce Brodsky & Ronnie Tyroler could give ballet lessons.

Bob Kennedy could be President of A.A.  
Rick Kohlman could be Vice President.  
Dick Glenn could pose for care packages.  
Shelly Strauss could be publicity agent for P.O.S.  
Sam Kornblatt could be a cha-cha instructor.  
Arthur Peretzian could be playgirl of the month.  
Ed Trecartin could be a proof reader for the Boston American.  
Tom Greenberg could be an O.O. instructor.

We don't know if these men have misplaced their talents, but it's sure good to have them all with us.

We're sure those of us who attended the Eyeball all had a wonderful time, but it seems a shame that we only get together once a year. Perhaps we can get together and plan something for later this semester. We could have a real ball.

That's about it for now fellows, see you at the "Lounge Bar".



# THE FINANCES OF THE COLLEGE

by DAN MURRAY

*It was recently our pleasure to interview Doctor Hochstatt, who is a Trustee and also the Treasurer of the Massachusetts College of Optometry.*

---

Question: What is the financial status of the College?

Dr. Hochstatt: Good, from the standpoint of cost of operation as compared with the income. However, the College is carrying a heavy financial burden resulting from the existing mortgages on the Horace Mann Building and the Clinic Building amounting to over \$45,000. The College is obliged to make regular payments on the principles of the mortgages as well as the interest charges. This amounts to over \$11,000. a year. It is from this standpoint that the College is experiencing difficulty balancing its budget.

Question: Is any progress being made in the conduct of the Building Fund Campaign?

Dr. Hochstatt: Yes. Since the Campaign was launched, the College has received pledges in excess of \$30,000. with most of this amount already paid. This has made the task of operating the College lighter, and I want to publicly acknowledge the thanks of the Board of Trustees and the Administrative Staff to all who contributed to the Fund. However, since the number of graduates is somewhat limited, the source of contributions must also be considered to be limited.

Question: What are the sources of income upon which the College depends?

Dr. Hochstatt: The principal sources of income are tuition and other minor fees; contributions from our graduates and other friends; and from some organizations within the profession of optometry.

Question: Does the College receive any contributions from sources outside of optometry?

Dr. Hochstatt: Unfortunately, with few exceptions the College has not received financial assistance from industry generally and from the ophthalmic industry in particular. This is a sad note which I must sound since the optometric profession including its educational institutions are so closely allied to the ophthalmic manufacturers that it is expected that they (the manufacturers) are doing all they can to give financial aid to optometry schools. However, we can see a change in attitude of some ophthalmic manufacturers even though the number is small. We are fortunate in being the recipient this year of a gift of \$5,000. from the Victory Optical Manufacturing Company for which we are most grateful.

---

## *Editorial Staff Changes*

---

The Scope, in concurrence with its policy of diversification and encouragement of personnel, is proud to announce the appointment of Sam Kornblatt as Feature Editor and of Tom Baker as Editorial Consultant. These latter two individuals have been quite active in the writing end of the Scope this year and are worthy additions to the Editorial Staff.

Carroll Martus joins Victor Pelletier on the Business Staff, these two incidentally are also working in the same capacity on the Yearbook of 1960.

---

A pyromaniac was caught after he had set fire to his former girl friend's house. His reason: "Trying to keep the old flame burning!"

# AN EXERCISE IN NONSENSE

by BOB McNULTY

Several times, since we have been a student of Optometry, we have been asked about "eye exercises". In most cases these have been questions about Orthoptics from curious or concerned relatives of a school child who perhaps had a reading problem. Other questions, however, dealt with a system of exercises (the Bates System) whose result would be that a Myope or Presbyope could "throw away his glasses and have perfect sight". My answer to either type of question was to say as little as possible without appearing stupid and hope that time and the Faculty would make me a fountainhead of knowledge on the subject.

Recently, however, my attention was directed toward a pocketbook available in a local bookstore and two books in the Public Library concerned with "Better vision without Glasses". Upon reading them, we came to the conclusions that, even though they were without scientific basis, we wanted more information in order to be able to explain their falacies and that the subject was of enough interest to be included in the Scope.

To understand the three major principles of this system, we must turn to the founder and his ideas on ocular physiology. William H. Bates was a practicing Ophthalmologist of New York City. The salient precept of his book, *The Cure of Imperfect Sight by Treatment Without Glasses*, is as follows:

"The lens is not a factor in accommodation and . . . the adjustment necessary for vision at different distances is effected by a change in the length of the organ, this alteration being brought about by the actions of the muscles on the outside of the globe."

"Equally convincing," Doctor Bates continues, "was the demonstration that errors of refraction, including presbyopia, are due, not to an organic change in the shape of the eyeball, or in the constitution of the lens, but to a functional and therefore curable derangement of the extrinsic muscles."

To be more explicit, hypertension of the oblique muscles produces Myopia, hyper-

tension of the medial and lateral recti produces Hyperopia, and excess traction of the remaining recti in combination with one of the previous groups produces astigmatism.

Apparently, any eye can be emmetropic if we can somehow remove the excess tension of its extra-ocular muscles.

Doctor Bates' pupil, Margaret Darst Corbett, founder of the Margaret Darst Corbett School of Eye Education in Los Angeles, and author of *Help Yourself to Better Eyesight*, is even less hampered by any knowledge of Physiology. She goes on to tell us how this marvelous arrangement works. It seems that each of the extra-ocular muscles has two portions, a long striped portion and a smooth portion where they attach to the sclera. With the striped portion, we roll our eyes or turn them up or down from side to side. The smooth portions of the muscles INVOLUNTARILY lengthen or flatten the eyeball to accommodate for near or far vision. Mrs. Corbett then leaves even the Master behind as she tells us that sunlight stimulates the Optic nerve and that if we close our eyes after the light has entered, the nerve and the retina take in the light and are thereby strengthened. Enough of this scientific vein however, let us now consider the principles of the Bates system (as amended by Mrs. Corbett) to determine if our time spent at school is wasted.

First, Palming. This is a technique where, with the eyes closed, the palms are placed gently over the eyes. (This is the point where you throw away your glasses for they get all fogged up if you don't). Naturally, every tiny bit of light is excluded from the eyes and they are allowed to rest. Somehow, the light which was so helpful a moment ago is now to be avoided. Sleep, it must be understood, does not accomplish this resting state so well, for in sleep, the fingers cannot massage the delicate nerves about the orbit which are "sympathetic" to the Optic nerve. Palming also enables us to attempt to see a perfect black which, if attained, means that we now have perfect sight.

Now, Exercising. This consists of numerous head and eye movements designed to stretch, relax, and refresh the eye muscles perhaps in the interest of untangling the derangement of the extrinsic muscles referred to by Dr. Bates. At the same time, of course, we breathe deeply, think pleasant thoughts, and let the sun bake our eyes.

Finally, Seeing. Fortunately, Seeing can be accomplished in one of two ways. One is by looking at a Snellen chart as often as possible. Dr. Bates seemed surprised that a class of school children who had a Snellen chart at the front of the room all year showed better vision at the end of the term. We often wonder what would have happened if he had tested them with a different chart. The other method by which seeing is practiced is to just relax and LET vision take place. You see, if we TRY to look at an object, the cone shaped nerves of the retina close tightly like a sensitive plant. This is most likely a result of those darn tangled muscles.

It may appear that we have taken liberties with these theories but each point, however ludicrous, can be verified in one of the two volumes mentioned. At least, we have taken no more liberties than Dr. Bates with his retinoscope (used at a distance of *six feet* in order not to frighten the patient) when he found a dozen variations in a second from normal to twenty diopters of Myopia or when he attached strings to the conjunctiva of a fish's eye, pulled the globe into an oval and was proud to discover that this produced mixed astigmatism.

To return to the question that prompted this articles, the answers are now obvious. The Bates system is based upon an erroneous physiology and, however sincere its practitioners, they cannot alter the state of static refraction of an eye or eliminate Presbyopia. An explanation of its claimed "cures" may lie in either a patient's better interpretation of a blurred retinal image through perceptual training, or in a relaxation of ciliary hypertonus through a relaxation of general muscular tension.

---

## JUNIOR NOTES

by GIL SELLARS

Mid-year examinations are finished — and so is the Junior Class. At least the class now knows that it was Tom Harmon who wore contact lenses when he played at Michigan and not Darrell Harmon. For those interested, Tom Baker is selling copies of "Who's Who in Coordinated Classrooms". Rumor has it that Ron Clapp is publishing his new book, "Lens Combinations". Bob McNulty has signed up to buy the first copy.

The new semester has started, and everyone is still with us. After two and one half years at MCO, Carroll Martus now knows why certain questions are asked in a certain course. Ken Varnum realizes that lightning does strike twice in room twenty six at eight in the morning.

We notice that the Dale Carnegie of MCO discovered that his father has bought some Gillette stock. Paul Kelly and Bob Kerwin are presently in negotiations with Dr. Wasserman. They plan to install show-ers in the ping pong room. Marshall Feld-

man, Ted Thamel, and Bill Gibbons are stocking up on stork feed and cigars in preparation for the big day. Best wishes for the happy events from the class.

The Junior Class was well represented at the Eyeball. Arty Fields has reported to this writer that he is taking a course in "How to Lose Certain Friends and Win Back Your Girl". By the way Arty, are you getting many hints from that copy of "Cy-rano" we see you reading? Earl Lizotte reports that Tom Baker had a date with a nice girl from New York who teaches school in Wellesley. There was a thirty second period of silence after every Cha-Cha in honor of Harvey Leavitt who was not present. The big question of the evening was, "What do you think Dr. Wasserman is dong with the class roll and that red pencil, here at the dance?"

The Junior Class has embarked on its Year Book project. The class officers have appointed the committee chairman. Committees Coordinator will be Gil Sellars. Tom Baker will be the writing section chairman. Dan Murray and his ubiquitous camera will handle graphics.

# THE LIGHTER SIDE OF OPTOMETRY

by SAM KORNBLATT

*Optometry, like any other field of endeavor, has its share of lighter moments. The following is a collection of such anecdotes, compiled with the cooperation, for which THE SCOPE is especially grateful, of Drs. Wright, Namias, Kuhn, Cline and Dean Green.*

Some people still apparently don't know what an optometrist does. One day a man called to make an appointment for the following day. When he came in for his appointment, I sat him down in the chair and proceeded to take his vision. He didn't seem to have any difficulty reading the chart, but then I noticed that he had taken his shoes and socks off and was sitting there in his bare feet. He then said, "I can see pretty good Doc, but when are you going to take care of these corns . . . they're killing me."

\* \* \*

A woman came into my office one day for an eye examination. Just then, the phone rang. I told her to just step into the examination room and take her things off, and I would be with her shortly. Well, she must have taken me literally, because when I got off the phone and came into the examination room, there she was . . .

\* \* \*

A problem child referred to me for an eye examination, had very nervous habits, which even included biting his toenails. Upon examination, I found he had an ocular muscle problem, for which I prescribed prisms. A few weeks later he came in with his mother for a progress checkup. His mother reported that his personality had shown a marked improvement as well as his vision. He even stopped biting his toenails. Perhaps the moral of this story might be, "base-in prism for fingernails, base-out prism for toes."

\* \* \*

Someone called up the clinic at one time and asked for one of the internes to come right over . . . his wife was about to give birth at any moment.

While examining a very nervous, high-strung woman, two young boys came into my office. One was carrying a small box, which aroused my suspicions. "What's in the box, son?" I asked. "Oh, nothing," he replied. I returned to examining the woman. Then I heard one boy whisper to the other, "Do you think we should open it?" I then asked the boy again what was in the box, and he replied that it contained nothing at all. I returned to the woman, and heard another whisper . . . "Go ahead and open it." The next thing I heard was a flapping of wings. Well, I don't know whether you're a pigeon fancier, but this woman certainly wasn't, because when she saw that thing come flying into the examination room, well . . . Anyway, after chasing the bird all over the room, we finally trapped it on the venetian blinds, but I never did get to find out what type of visual problem that boy had.

\* \* \*

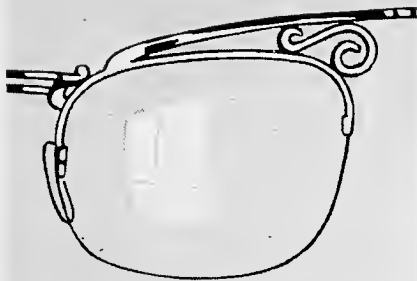
The Massachusetts State Board of Optometry received a complaint from a woman one day about her optometrist. "My optometrist," she wrote, "talked me into getting bifocals, but when I got them home, I saw that he had fooled me. My husband's bifocals had a round top on the bottom portion, but the ones my optometrist had given me had a straight top."

\* \* \*

While creating vertical diplopia during phoria testing, I ask the patient generally, "Where is the bottom dot with respect to the top" (meaning it is to the left or to the right)?, and frequently the response is, "Underneath it." Or, when using the astigmatic dial, I will ask the patient which lines stand out, and the patient responds "the vertical lines," with a sweeping motion of his arm across his body horizontally.

\* \* \*

An optometrist friend of mine fitted up a man with a pair of bifocals, who had worn a bright red coat. He told him they would be ready in a week. A week later, a man wearing a bright red coat came into his



*Gold-filled*

for the finest eyewear  
money can buy!



*For details, ask  
either of the  
"service twins" in your area:  
your B&L wholesaler or  
B&L branch man.*

Nothing suits frames and mountings like quality gold filled (1/10 12K). And no other gold filled has the quality, durability and styling of Bausch & Lomb. The popular fashion leader shown is "Spirelle"—in white or Arista.



office. My friend tried the bifocals on the man and asked him to read the chart. He could just barely see the large E at the top of the chart. The optometrist couldn't understand what was wrong. He then presented the man with some reading matter and asked him how it looked. The man, holding it three inches away from his face replied, "I can see it right about here." The optometrist was completely baffled until the man added, "Look doctor, I just came in to pick up my teeth . . . are they ready yet?"

\* \* \*

A new patient came in one day expressing a great lack of confidence in his last optometrist, who, after examining him, had told him, "The glasses you are now wearing are better than the ones I could give you." What he had meant was, a change in Rx was unnecessary, but due to his clumsy grammar, he had lost one patient.

\* \* \*

I examined an elderly gentleman who had been very dissatisfied with the glasses he had been wearing. I inquired as to when he was last examined, and he replied that

it had been six months ago. I then asked who had examined him, and he replied that he had given himself his own examination. He had sent away for one of those do-it-yourself kits and had ordered a pair of bifocals, no less, through the mail. Well, this may be all right, however the man completely missed a two-diopter cylinder in each eye. And also, the question arises whether this man was legally permitted to "practise optometry" even though it was only on himself.

\* \* \*

An optometrist friend of mine told me about one of his patients he had just fitted with a new pair of glasses. The patient complained that he couldn't see things well at all with them. The optometrist felt that a short break-in period was all that was necessary, but when the patient got home, his young son began playing around with the new glasses, and in doing so, put them on his father backwards (ocular surface away from eye). The man, astonished, found that he could see perfectly in this manner. It seemed that the right and left lenses had been erroneously switched when put into the frame.

# OMEGA EPSILON PHI

by **SHELDON STRAUSS**

Omega Epsilon Phi held its Annual International Convention December 13th and 14th at the Statler Hotel in Boston.

Highlight of the convention was the Award of Honorary Membership presented to Dr. Otto Hochstadt, faculty adviser to Zeta Chapter throughout its internment at M.C.O. since 1947. It is apropos to mention that Dr. Hochstadt has attended every function of Omega Epsilon Phi fraternity since 1947, with the exception of perhaps one or two. Dr. Hochstadt has been a Bi-Annual speaker at our smoker and banquet; he has never neglected to cite the fact of the pride that he takes in being so closely affiliated with Zeta Chapter and has continuously lauded this fraternity's spirit.

Newly inducted members are: Bob Agranov, Rick Kohlman, Ron Tyroler, Tom Greenberg, Larry Ferguson, Bob North, Mike Gorman, Arthur Peretzian and Steve Chasin, (whom the other fraternity may refer to as a rebel without a cause, also some other choice phraseology). But we are pleased to welcome Steve as a new member of this fraternity—he saw the light.

After occupancy of the same fraternity room since 1947, it was voted at our last meeting before finals to establish permanent residency in what is now the ping pong room. Tommy Greenberg, our boy from the Bayou, revels at going skiing twice a month in the northern country. Bruce Brodsky lost his pin recently. Don Saferstein will be married to Judy Ossoff in July.

Have you noticed who is sparking the M.C.O. basketball team? It's newly inducted member, Mike Gorman who has been averaging 30 points per game and who with Bob North, comprise the team's back court duo. Along with Dick Glenn, Bruce Brodsky and Art Peretzian are some of the other OEPhi members composing the basketball team.

A challenge has been extended to OEPhi by the other fraternity to engage them in a basketball game. They really believe they can win—I hope they aren't serious—what a terrible letdown!!

**PAGE TWELVE**

# COLOR PSYCHOLOGY

by **DAN MURRAY**

The above terms are very closely inter-related as pointed out by Dr. Robert Gerard, a VA clinical psychologist, who explored thoroughly the effects of projecting different colored lights on several dozen normal subjects. Two types of lights were used for this study, red and blue lights with identical radiant energy.

Research results showed that blue may act as a tranquilizer and relaxant for anxious or tense individuals while red tends to disturb these same people. During blue illumination, blood pressure, respiration rate, number of eye blinks and muscle tension were significantly lower than when red lights were used; EEG measurements showed less arousal of the brain during blue light. On tense and anxious individuals the effects were marked, red being the stimulant and blue the relaxant.

\* \* \*

Another variant of the color—psychology theme is known and this is a rare thing indeed. A condition of psychopathology exists which is called acuti-optical synesthesia, this is characterized by an auditory sensitivity which responds to stimulation with specific visual color pattern perceptions. The composer Claude Debussy had this phenomena developed to quite an extent, so much so that almost every note of music he heard produced the sensation of green in variant shades. Some conductors admit that when in the throes of complete involvement in a musical performance they often cannot see the orchestra because of a development of a rainbow of color before their eyes.

---

## **EASY DOES IT !**

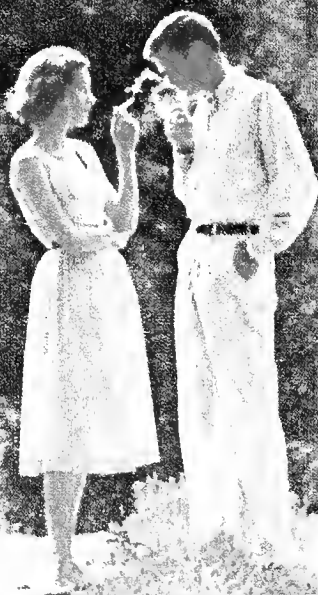
The following excerpt is from "Today's Health", a publication of the A. M. A. "What is involved in being fitted with contact lenses? The examination is deceptively simple: your measurements—both for visual error and for the shape of your cornea—are taken with the ophthalmoscope, which shines a beam of light directly into your eye".





A new idea in smoking!

# Salem refreshes your taste



• menthol fresh

• rich tobacco taste

• modern filter, too

Freshness of growing things and softly fragrant air . . . just as a Spring day like this refreshes you, so a Salem refreshes your taste. Through Salem's pure-white, modern filter flows the freshest taste in cigarettes. Smoke refreshed, pack after pack. Buy Salems by the carton.

Created by E. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company